

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 00433 021031Z

21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02

XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06

AGR-20 IGA-02 FPC-01 NSF-04 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /241 W

----- 046085

R 011604Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9067

INFO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

COMUSFORAZ

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 433

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN VIEWS ON LAJES

REF: LSIBON 219, LISBON 400

SUMMARY: AZOREAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY CITES FEW
ADVANTAGES ACCRUING TO ISLANDS FROM LAJES PRESENCE, AND
URGES THAT FUTURE AZORES BASE AGREEMENT PROVIDE CONCRETE
ASSISTANCE FOR AZOREAN ECONOMY, TO OVERCOME POVERTY
AND REMOVE DISAGREEABLE ECONOMIC DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN
AMERICANS AND PORTUGUESE ON ISLANDS. DEPUTY'S SPEECH FOLLOWED
UP WITH SPECIFICS ON THEME OF EDITORIAL IN PROVINCIAL AZORES
NEWSPAPER CALLING FOR GOP TO RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF BASE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 00433 021031Z

TO ISLANDERS. END SUMMARY.

1. ALVARO MONJARDINO, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY FROM ANGRA DO HEROISMO IN AZORES, SPOKE ON AZORES BASE NEGOTIATIONS IN ASSEMBLY ADDRESS JANUARY 31. HE NOTED THAT AS NEGOTIATIONS NOW UNDERWAY, TIME IS RIPE TO DISCUSS POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF THIRTY YEARS OF US MILITARY PRESENCE.

2. ON POSITIVE SIDE, MONJARDINO LISTED RELATIVELY LITTLE FRICTION BETWEEN LOCAL POPULACE AND MILITARY; BASE PROVIDES 1,500 PORTUGUESE CIVILIANS WITH WORK WHICH HAS HELPED KEEP INHABITANTS FROM EMIGRATING; AND TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDES AND SKILLS WHICH EMPLOYEES ACQUIRE.

3. ON NEGATIVE SIDE, MONJARDINO CONDEMNED "MORAL WASTELAND" SURROUNDING BASES EVERYWHERE, INCLUDING LAJES, WHICH "PSYCHOLOGICALLY" IS "NEGATIVE AND HUMILIATING" TO LOCAL POPULACE. HE DEALT AT LENGTH WITH VIVID CONTRAST BETWEEN LIFE STYLES OF RURAL, POOR PORTUGUESE AND 5,000 AFFLUENT, WELL-FED, WELL-VACCINATED, WELL-DRESSED FOREIGNERS, AND DECLARED THAT THE MATERIAL GAP BETWEEN TWO COMMUNITIES NATURALLY LEADS TO PORTUGUESE RESENTMENT.

4. FACT IS, SAID MONJARDINO, THESE INEQUALITIES HAVE NOT CHANGED IN THIRTY YEARS, AND WELL-BEING OF LOCAL POPULACE HAS NOT BEEN IMPROVED BY EXISTENCE OF BASE. NEITHER AZORES NOR PORTUGAL AS WHOLE IS INTERESTED IN MAINTENANCE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS, WHICH EXCLUSIVELY BENEFITS US: PORTUGAL RECEIVES NEITHER GRATITUDE OR RESPECT FROM AMERICANS, FOR USE OF A BASE WHICH THEY WILL ABANDON WHEN IT SUITS THEM.

5. AMERICANS, OPINED MONJARDINO, WILL NOT RESPECT PORTUGUESE IF THEY DO NOT MAKE THEIR DEMANDS FIRMLY AND REASONABLY. PORTUGAL, "SHOULD NOT LOSE THE OPPORTUNITIES AT HAND: IT SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE ADVANTAGE OF GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS WHICH ARE TRANSIENT, OF HISTORICAL SITUATIONS WHICH MIGHT NOT REOCCUR, AND OF ECONOMIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 00433 021031Z

POTENTIALITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN WAITING TO BE REALIZED FOR CENTURIES." DEPUTY SAID AGREEMENT SHOULD SPECIFICALLY PROVIDE FUND FOR FINANCING REGIONAL PROJECTS. AID SHOULD BE PROVIDE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, TRAINING LOCAL FARMERS, AND PROVIDING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND TO UTILIZE THE REGION'S GEOTHERMAL POTENTIAL.

6. MONJARDINO LISTED SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS WHICH NEED

TO BE RESOLVED ONCE AND FOR ALL: THE STATUS OF FORCES ARRANGEMENTS WHICH, HE SAYS, DETRACT FROM PORTUGUESE SOVEREIGNTY; UNFAVORABLE SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL RULES APPLYING TO PORTUGUESE WORKERS AT LAJES; FAILURE TO CONTRIBUTE TO UPKEEP OF AZOREAN HIGHWAYS, USED BY 1,500 AMERICAN CARS.

7. DEPUTY'S SPEECH TREATS IN DETAIL THEME RAISED IN EARLIER JANUARY 17 EDITORIAL IN LOCAL DIARIO INSULAR OF TERCEIRA ISLAND, WHERE LAJES LOCATED. EDITORIAL ARGUES THAT PORTUGAL INDEED RECEIVES BENEFITS FROM BASE, AND CALLS FOR "UNDERSTANDING...ON THE PORTUGUESE PART" IN RESOLVING BASE QUESTION, TAKING INTERESTS OF AZORES THEMSELVES INTO ACCOUNT. ARTICLE IMPLIES THAT PRESENCE OF BASE SHOULD PROVIDE NOT JUST SALARIES, BUT LONG TERM BENEFITS IN FORM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

8. COMMENT: BOTH DEPUTY'S SPEECH AND EDITORIAL PLACE MAIN STRESS ON NEED TO OBTAIN SPECIFIC BENEFITS FOR AZORES OUT OF NEGOTIATIONS. BOTH WERE SPEAKING MORE TO GOP IN LISBON THAN TO USG THROUGH PRESS. MAINLAND PRESS HAS SO FAR GIVEN SCANT ATTENTION TO AZOREANS' DESIRES FOR GREATER REGIONAL BENEFITS-REFLECTING, IN FACT, LISBON'S CHRONIC LACK OF CONCERN FOR ISLANDS. COVERAGE OF EDITORIAL IN MAINLAND PRESS HAS DOWNPLAYED IMPORTANCE OF BASE TO ISLANDERS AND THEIR DESIRE FOR ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM AGREEMENT WITH US.
SCOTT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEGISLATORS, PERSONAL OPINION, MILITARY BASES, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LISBON00433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740263/aaaacglw.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LISBON 219, LISBON 400
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AZOREAN VIEWS ON LAJES
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PO, US, (MONJARDINO, ALVARO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005